

USING SPORT IN THE CLASSROOM

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What is Sport?

Physical competition that may or may not have become institutionalized. Many times motivated by a combination of internal or external rewards.



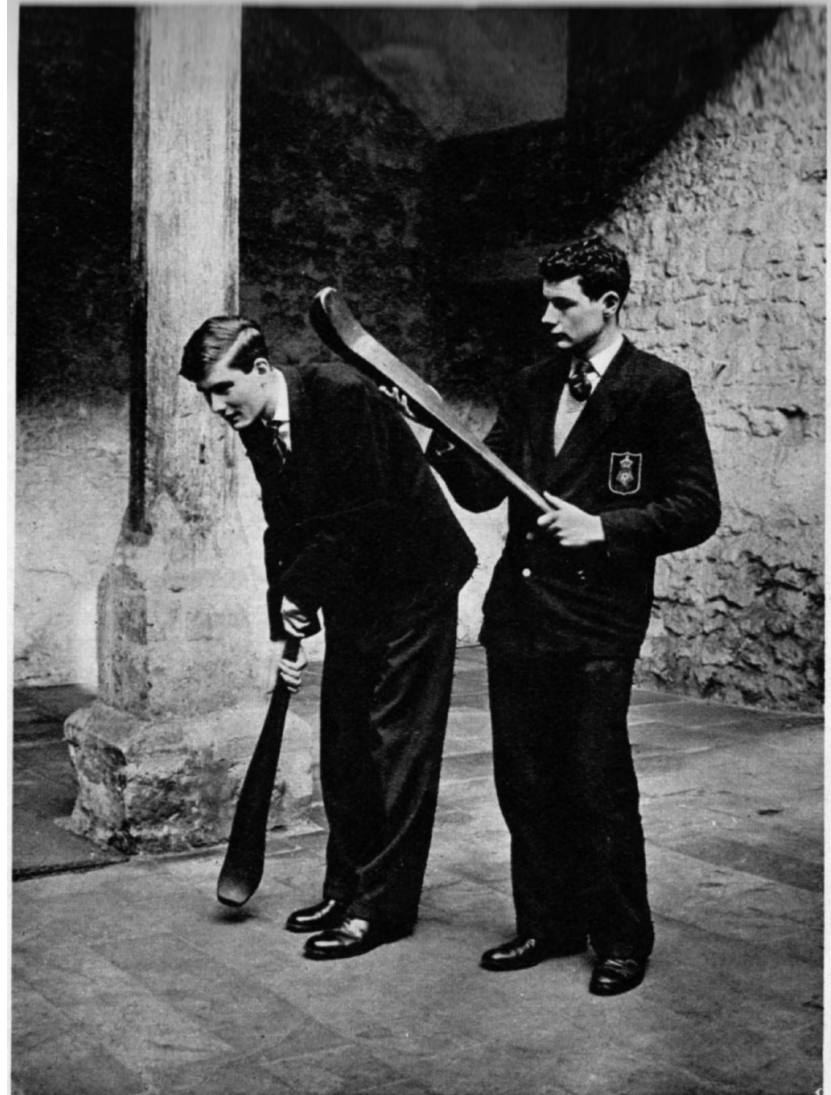
Sport as a Social Phenomena

- Sports are interconnected to the social and cultural contexts in which we live
- Sports provide stories & images used to explain human behaviors
- Most importantly sports provide a window into culture & society



Sport Scholarship

- The history of sport is largely a new field of academic research
- Many historians have ignored the importance of sport, but that is changing



PROUD POSSESSIONS OF THE SCHOOL: TWO CRICKET BATS, 'OF 1729 AND 1767. IT WAS IN GUILDFORD—IN 1598—THAT THE GAME WAS FIRST MENTIONED.

Sport Scholarship



The International Journal of

Sport and Society

COMMON
GROUND

SPORTANDSOCIETY.COM

- Sports history is a social science with its roots in the parent fields of history and sports studies.
- Relatively new academic discipline that was formally recognized in 1973 with the establishment of the North American Society for Sport History (NASSH)
- Sports history today examines sports from educational, professional, and leisure pastime perspectives

Sport Scholarship

- Sports activities and images are part of people's lives
- Examines gender, class, ethnicity, and race in various sports settings.
- Sports are connected with major spheres of social life such as:
 - family, economy, media, politics, education, & religion



Sports Illustrated 1999 cover

Sport Scholarship

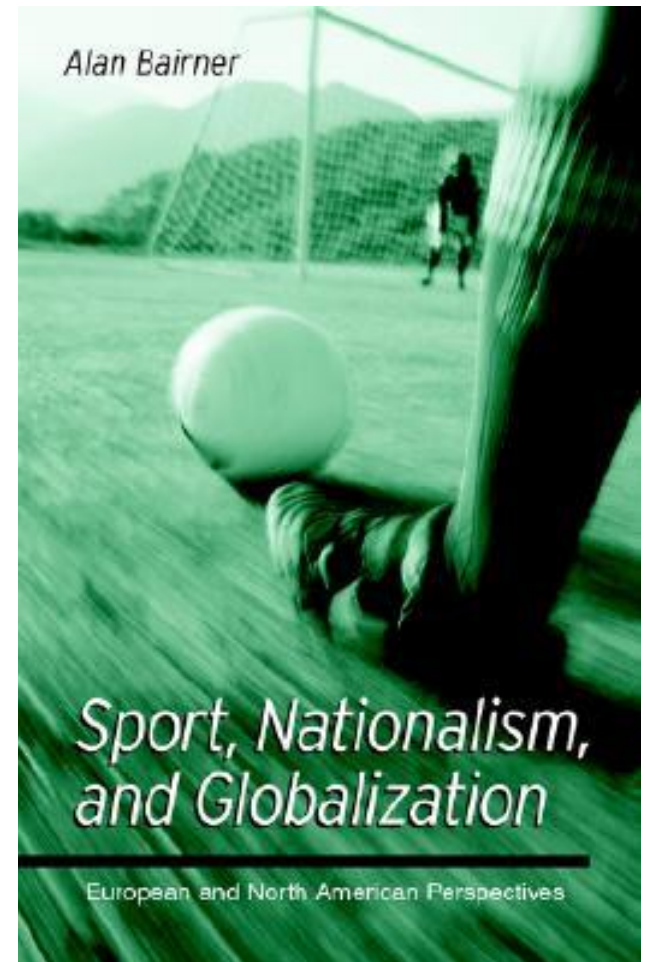
- Sports research is quickly gaining respect and importance.
- Students with this major pursue such jobs:
 - Teaching sports history
 - library, museum, archival, or sports writing careers

Baseball Hall of Fame Museum



Study of Sport and Classroom

- Sports provide a window into the attitudes and beliefs of the past.
- Allow teachers to study complicated concepts such as nationalism, imperialism, human rights, globalization, & interdependence with a different lens
- Fosters critical thinking



Study of Sport and Classroom

- In studying global history, a vital thread that connects civilizations, governments, cultures and most importantly people, is sport

“In short, organized sport has become a global phenomenon perhaps second only to industrial capitalism in its scope.”

Sport historian Patrick McDevitt

Industrial Revolution & Soccer

- Rise of modern sport coincided with Industrial Revolution
- New technologies and changes in economy allowed for more leisure time and discretionary income.
- Spread of modern sport also explicitly tied to imperialism



Painting depicting 19th century soccer

1936 Summer Olympics

- First 'Modern' Olympic Games
- Hitler eventually realized the propaganda 'gold' he had with the Olympics
- Media heavily censors to conceal anti-Semitism



1936 Summer
Olympic Opening
Ceremony

1936 Olympics

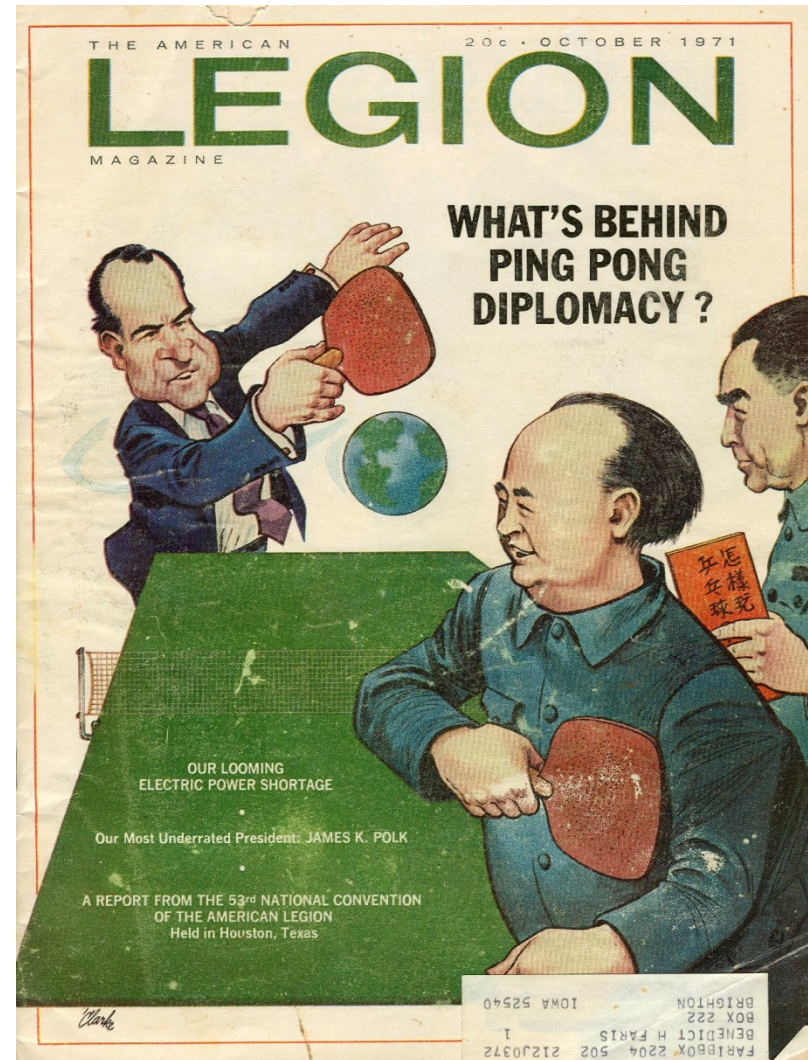


- Students gain valuable insight to the rise of Hitler and the Nazi regime
- Easily connected to Hitler's totalitarian tactics
- Encourage higher level thinking in students

1936 Summer Olympic Poster

Nixon & Ping Pong

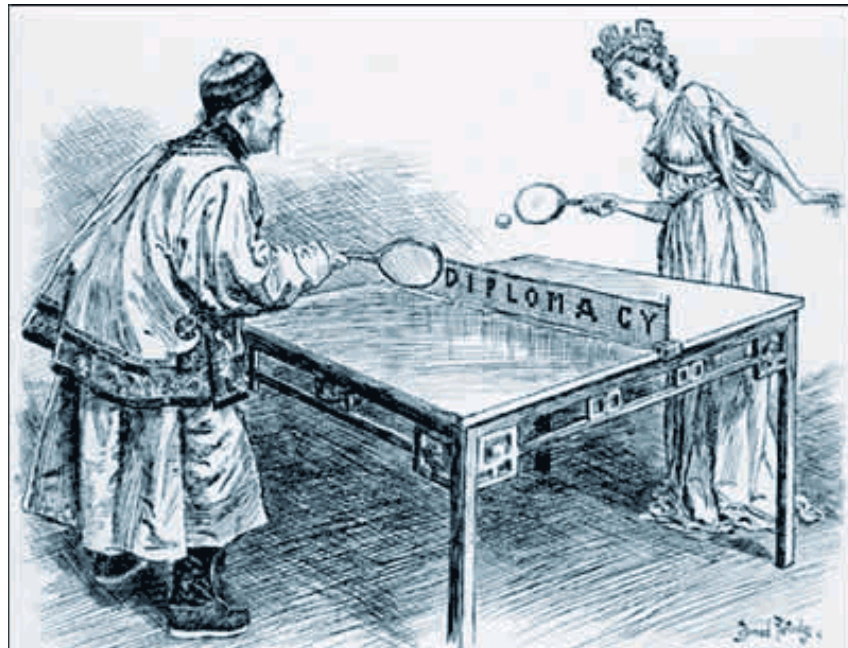
- Cold War is a topic of history that is heavily stressed in both World and US History books
- Exploring the concept of Détente by examining China/US relations
- Simple game of Ping Pong



Legion Magazine Cover - 1972

Ping Pong Diplomacy

- Students examine events surrounding the US/China relationship during the early 1970s
- To what extent did the game of Ping Pong encourage the opening up of China to the United States?
 - Again for students to think critically and make an argument



Political Cartoon 1972

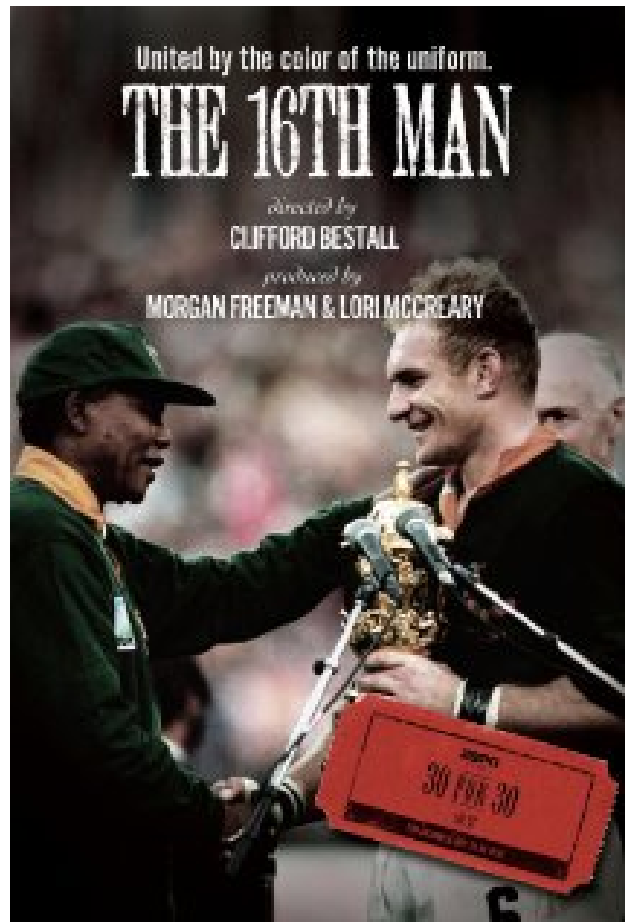
Rugby & South Africa

- Sport during and after apartheid era
- Importance of sport as a tool for government to gain legitimacy.
- Sport and the relationship it shares with globalization



Nelson Mandela and Springbok
Captain Francois Pienaar

Rugby & South Africa



- Students examine the impact of the 1995 World Cup of Rugby and South Africa
- To what extent can sport be used as a unifying factor towards nationalism?
- Encourage media literacy by watching ESPN's "The 16th Man"

ESPN 30 for 30 DVD Cover

Women & Title IX

- Women have attempted to gain equality throughout history of the United States
- With Title IX women in the United States attempted to gain equality through sports



Women & Title IX

- Encourage students to build literacy skills that have been embraced by the Common Core
- Draw on prior knowledge of another group that has sought equality by comparing them with African Americans
- Opportunity for rich discussion of similarities and/or differences of both groups in sports.



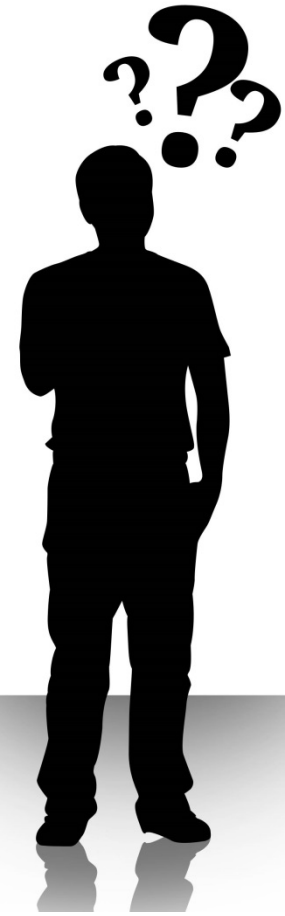
Think

What ideas or topics can you think of that could be incorporated into your history classroom involving sports?

Some hints:

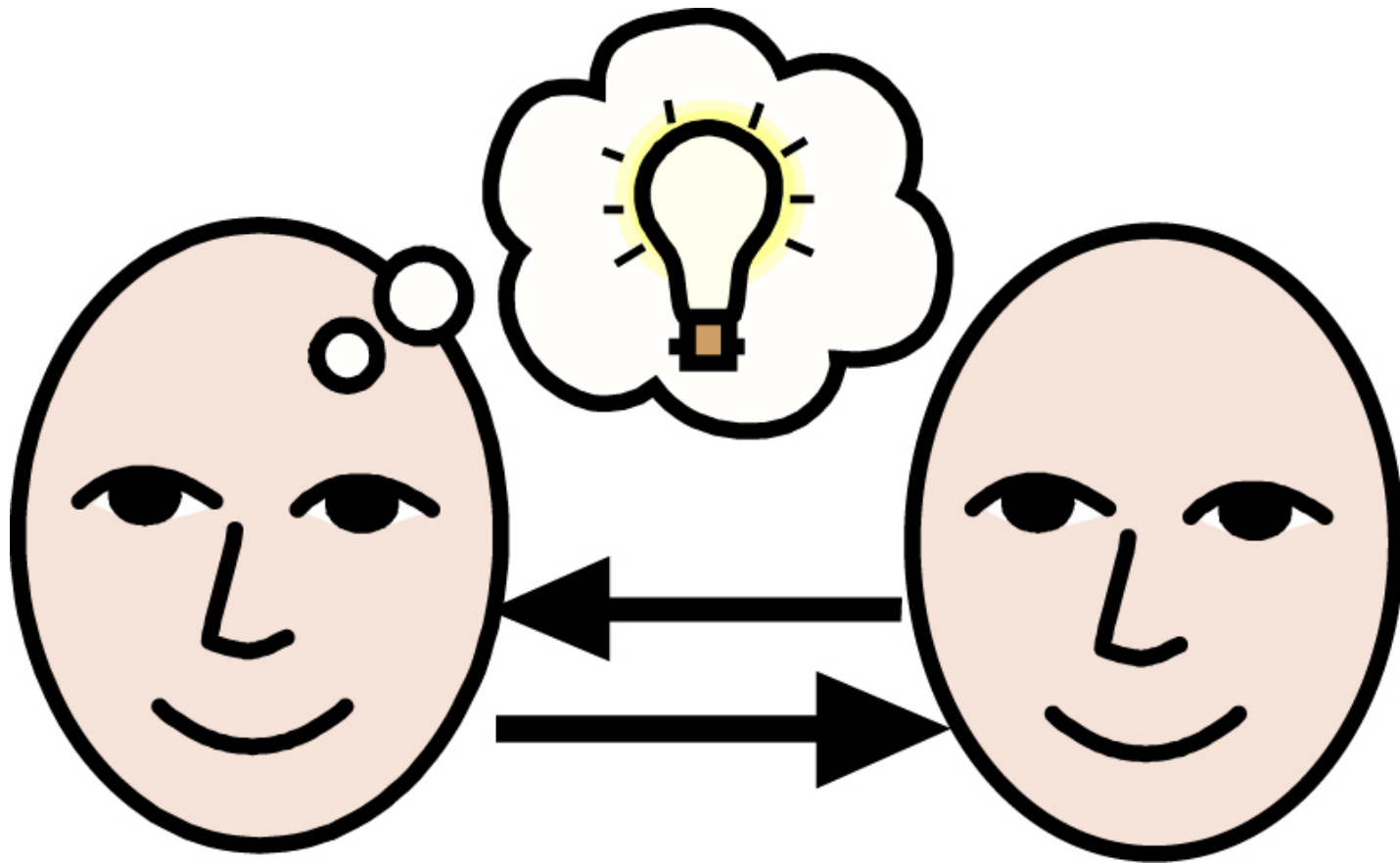
What concepts can sports help you explain?

What sports are your students interested in?



Pair

Find one or two person in the room and share your ideas.



Share

Alright what ideas did you come up with?



Thank You!

**THANKS
FOR TAKING
TIME OUT**

**I KNOW YOUR
TIME IS VALUABLE**

**AND I APPRECIATE YOU
SPENDING SOME OF IT WITH ME!**

